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General Assembly

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Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations
New York, 21 February-17 March 2017

Draft report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations on the 2017 substantive session

Rapporteur: Mr. Mohammed **Halima** (Egypt)

I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 70/268, the General Assembly welcomed the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (A/70/19), decided that the Committee, in accordance with its mandate, should continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in that field, and requested the Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session.

II. Organizational matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

2. The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations held its 2017 session at United Nations Headquarters from 21 February to 17 March 2017 and held five plenary meetings.

3. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations. At the 249th (opening) meeting, on 21 February, the Chef de Cabinet, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support made statements.

4. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support provided support to the Committee on substantive issues, while the Disarmament and Peace Affairs Branch of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management served as the technical secretariat of the Committee.

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B. Election of officers

5. At its 249th meeting, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chair:
Mr. Anthony **Bosah** (Nigeria)

Vice-Chairs:
Mr. Mateo **Estreme** (Argentina)
Mr. Michael **Grant** (Canada)
Mr. Takeshi **Akahori** (Japan)
Ms. Margareta **Kassangana-Jakubowska** (Poland)

Rapporteur:
Mr. Mohammed **Halima** (Egypt)

C. Agenda

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda (A/AC.121/2017/L.1), which read:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Organization of work.
5. General debate.
6. In-session briefings.
7. Consideration of the draft report by the Working Group of the Whole.
8. Adoption of the report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session.
9. Other matters.

7. The Committee also approved its draft programme of work (A/AC.121/2017/L.2).

D. Organization of work

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee decided to establish a working group of the whole, to be chaired by Michael Grant (Canada), to consider the substance of the mandate entrusted to the Committee by the General Assembly.

9. Also at its 249th meeting, the Committee agreed that certain sections and subsections contained in the report on the 2016 substantive session (A/70/19) would be negotiated in the Working Group of the Whole and that those sections and subsections that were not being negotiated in 2017 would be technically updated.

10. At its 253rd meeting, the Committee adopted a draft decision on the working methods of the Committee and its Working Group of the Whole (see annex I).

11. The composition of the Committee at its 2017 session is contained in annex II to the present report. The list of documents for the session is contained in A/AC.121/2017/INF/2, and the list of participants at the session is contained in A/AC.121/2017/INF/4.

E. Proceedings of the Committee

12. At its 249th to 252nd meetings, on 21 and 22 February, the Committee held a general debate on a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects. Statements were made by the representatives of Morocco (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Indonesia (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, then in a national capacity), Canada (on behalf of Australia, Canada and New Zealand), the European Union (also on behalf of Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine), South Af ica, Switzerland, Mexico, Colombia, Argentina, Turkey, the Philippines, Norway, Egypt, Guatemala, Pakistan, China, Uruguay, Peru, Thailand, India, the United States of America, Cuba, Japan, Mali, Ethiopia, Jamaica, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Bangladesh, Brazil, Senegal, Nigeria, Myanmar, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine, the Russian Federation, the Sudan, Chile, Brunei Darussalam, Bhutan, Georgia, Armenia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Serbia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Eritrea, Tunisia, the Republic of Korea, Honduras, Nepal, Uganda, Israel and Djibouti.

13. Statements were also made by the observers for the International Organization of la Francophonie and the African Union.

14. On 23 and 24 February, the Working Group of the Whole heard briefings. On 23 February, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support made presentations and engaged in an interactive segment. On 24 February, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations gave a briefing on operational field issues.

15. On 3 March, at the 4th meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, the President of the General Assembly made a statement and engaged in the ensuing interactive segment.

16. The Working Group of the Whole and its four sub-working groups met from 27 February to 17 March and concluded their work on draft recommendations.

III. Consideration of the draft report of the Working Group

17. At its 253rd meeting, on 17 March, the Committee considered the recommendations of the Working Group of the Whole and decided to include its recommendations in the present report (see paras. 19-[ ]) for consideration by the General Assembly.

IV. Adoption of the report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session

18. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted its draft report to the General Assembly as introduced by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

V. Proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Committee

19. [*to be inserted*]

Annex I

Decision on working methods of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group of the Whole

[*to be inserted*]

Annex II

Composition of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

Members: The Special Committee currently consists of the following 151 members: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Observers: Botswana, Holy See, African Union, European Union, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Criminal Court, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, International Organization of la Francophonie, Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Sovereign Military Order of Malta.

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Draft decision on working methods

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, recalling annex I to the report on its 2016 session, and pursuant to the intersessional meeting of the group of Friends of the Chair held on 15 June 2016:

(a) Emphasizes the importance of continuously reviewing the working methods of the Special Committee with a view to enhancing the Committee's ability to fully examine and capture the implications of the changing demands on United Nations peacekeeping and to present key messages and priorities in its report;

(b) Decides:

(i) That an informal working group will be established to examine options to update the annual report of the Special Committee and its corresponding working methods;

(ii) On the basis of the feedback of the working group, the Bureau of the Special Committee will initiate a dialogue with membership with the goal of having updated working methods for the Committee agreed by consensus, by an anticipated date of 31 May 2017 and to be applied at its 2018 session;

(c) Further decides that the present decision will be included as an annex to the report of the Special Committee on its 2017 session.

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